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Bo-In Lin
13445 Mandoli Drive
Los Altos Hills CA 94022

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AUG 22 2011

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 7,049,668
Issue Date: May 23, 2006
Application No. 09/139,935
Filed: August 25, 1998
Attorney Docket No. **2154-11**

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ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed August 4, 2011, to accept the delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

This patent expired at midnight May 23, 2010, for failure to pay the 3½ year maintenance fee. Since this petition was submitted within twenty-four months after the six-month grace period provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e), the petition was timely filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.378(c).

The petition is hereby **GRANTED**.

The maintenance fee is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to JoAnne Burke at (571) 272-4584.

JoAnne Burke
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions